## What is claimed is:

- 1. A digital topography imaging system comprising;
  - a) an x-ray emitting source;
  - b) a sample holder;
- c) a charge coupled device (CCD) camera with antiblooming circuitry which reduces pixel image corruption due to CCD camera pixel overloading wherein the camera converts x-ray signals to electrical signals without the use of phosphor and measures reflection profiles from the x-ray emitting source after x-rays are passed through a sample; and
  - d) a means for acquiring and displaying images of a sample;

wherein x-rays from the x-ray emitting source pass through a sample, and are converted by the CCD camera into electrical signals so that the resulting x-ray reflection profiles are measured and the structure of the sample is acquired and displayed.

- 2. The digital topography imaging system of claim 1 20 wherein the CCD camera has a pixel size of less than 10  $\mu \rm m$  .
  - 3. The digital topography imaging system of claim 1 wherein the x-ray source has a shutter, allowing for variable exposure times.
    - 4. A method for digital topography imaging comprising;
- 25 a) placing a sample in the sample holder of the system of claim 1;
  - b) positioning the sample holder between the x-ray emitting source and the CCD camera;
- c) exposing the sample to x-rays from the x-ray 30 emitting source;

- d) measuring the x-ray reflection angles of the x-rays that are passed through the sample from the x-ray emitting source with the CCD camera to form a raw image;
  5 and
  - e) processing the raw image measured by the CCD camera with a computer program to provide a clearer image of the crystal structure of the sample.
- 5. The method of claim 4 wherein raw images provided by the CCD camera are computer processed using wavelet transforms, and histograms to provide clear images of the sample.
  - 6. The method of claim 5 wherein the raw images are computer processed using a multi step method comprising;
- a) subtracting a dark current image of equal exposure to remove dark current noise;
  - b) removing electric ripple noise with a multiple filter wavelet transform;
- c) using a histogram cutoff filter to cut remaining20 background noise;
  - d) using a median filter to clean the speckle nature of the data;
    - e) using a wavelet transform to enhance resolution;
- 25 f) filtering remaining low level noise with a histogram filter; and
  - g) digitizing the data into an integer range wherein each numerical value is associated with a corresponding color, so that clear images of the sample are displayed.
- 7. The method of claim 6 wherein the multiple filter wavelet transform comprises a low frequency decomposition filter, a high frequency decomposition filter, a low

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frequency reconstruction filter and a high frequency reconstruction filter.

- 8. The method of claim 4 further comprising animating the processed images to show the diffraction of crystal5 volume versus the oscillation angle.
  - 9. The method of claim 4 wherein the digital topography imaging system may be employed to determine the crystalline structure of a sample.